

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraphs starting at page 3, line 4 and ending at page 3, line 12 to read, as follows.

Summary of the Invention

This invention is to prevent such interference from occurring at the transfer operation. This invention, particularly for an image forming apparatus equipped with plural image carriers as image carrying means in aiming at improvements in productivity, ~~productivity~~, is to solve the above problems without reducing the productivity.

It is another object to provide an image forming apparatus including an image carrying ~~member~~, ~~means~~, and an intermediate transfer body in an endless shape movable and receivable of toner images from said image carrying member ~~means~~ at first and second transfer positions,

Please amend the paragraphs starting at page 3, line 16 and ending at page 4, line 23 to read, as follows.

wherein said first transfer position is a position for transferring to said intermediate transfer body from a nearest image carrying member ~~means~~ on a downstream side in a moving direction of said intermediate transfer body with respect to a position that the toner image is transferred from said intermediate transfer body to the transfer material,

wherein said second transfer position is a position for transferring to said intermediate transfer body from the nearest image carrying member ~~means~~ on an upstream side in the moving direction of said intermediate transfer body with respect to a position

that the toner image is transferred from said intermediate transfer body to the transfer material, [[and]]

wherein the following relationship is satisfied where a distance from said first transfer position to said second transfer position along the moving direction of said intermediate transfer body is denoted as L_{ab} , a circumference of said intermediate transfer body in the moving direction is denoted as L_r , and a length of said toner image formed on said intermediate transfer body is denoted as L_m :

$$L_r - L_m > L_{ab}, \text{ and}$$

wherein a toner image of an image is transferred onto said intermediate transfer body after toner images of the previous image are entirely formed on said intermediate transfer body where the toner images are formed successively.

It is yet another object to provide an image forming apparatus including image carrying member, ~~means~~, and an intermediate transfer body in an endless shape movable and receivable of toner images from said image carrying member ~~means~~ at first and second transfer positions,

wherein a [[the]] toner image formed on said intermediate transfer body is transferred onto a transfer material after passing said first transfer position and said second transfer position again,

wherein said first transfer position is a position for transferring to said intermediate transfer body from the nearest image carrying member ~~means~~ on a downstream side in a moving direction of said intermediate transfer body with respect to a position that the toner image is transferred from said intermediate transfer body to the transfer material,

wherein said second transfer position is a position for transferring to said intermediate transfer body from the nearest image carrying member ~~means~~ on an upstream side in the moving direction of said intermediate transfer body with respect to a position that the toner image is transferred from said intermediate transfer body to the transfer material,